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Date:	November 15, 2011
To:	Examiner Rachel Young U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Re:	Agenda for Telephone Interview U.S. Patent Application No. 10/578,624 Inventor: Akihiko Miyamoto <u>Attorney Docket No.: 042269</u>
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From:	Ryan B. Chirnomas/da (3111-0034)

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November 15, 2011

VIA FACSIMILE

Examiner Rachel Young
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re: Agenda for Telephone Interview
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/578,624
Inventor: Akihiko Miyamoto
Attorney Docket No.: 042269

Dear Examiner Young:

Further to our telephone conversation, I am providing you with an agenda of items to discuss in the telephone interview scheduled for 10am on Friday, November 18, 2011. In particular I would like to discuss the following points:

- As to the §112 rejection, when an inhaler is not attached to a horn-shaped junction, there is zero or almost zero no air flow passing through the body 3a, 3b, and 3f, and the holding members 2a, 2b, 2d from horn-shaped junction. Thus, the reed does not create a noise. The reed makes a noise only when the commercially available inhaler is attached, and inhalation has been correctly performed.
- Whether paragraph 5 on page 3 is an error.
- As illustrated in Figures 10-15, the inhaler aid can be fitted to at least three different common commercially available inhaler types. This is due to the saddle shape of the junction 3. This is more clearly illustrated in the photographs sent separately via email. Applicants have drafted a proposed amendment describing this feature.

Please review the proposed amended claims, specification, cited art, and emailed photos in view of the above points. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 822-1113. Otherwise, I look forward to speaking with you on November 18, 2011.

Very truly yours,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

Ryan B. Chirnomas

RBC/dma

Enclosure: Proposed Amended Claims

Examiner Rachel Young
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
November 15, 2011
Page 2

PROPOSED AMENDED CLAIMS

S/N: 10/578,624

1. (Currently Amended) An inhaler aid, comprising:

a main unit having a silicon rubber tube used to aid an inhaler for minute powdery curative medicine, and a junction ~~a horn-shaped junction~~ at a lower portion of the main unit, said junction having a horn-shape in plan view such that a front joint piece and a rear joint piece of the junction project further in a longitudinal direction than left and right lateral ends of the junction, and having an arched shape in side view such that said front joint piece and said rear joint piece correspond to bases of the arched shape and the left and right lateral ends correspond to a top of the arched shape;

an engagement portion which is provided at an upper portion of the main unit, the engagement portion including left and right projections, each having a holding member at an end thereof; and

a reed fitted into a right side of the main unit;

wherein only when the inhaler aid is joined to a mouthpiece of the inhaler for the minute powdery curative medicine and an inhalation has been correctly performed, a sound is produced from the reed.

Examiner Rachel Young
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
November 15, 2011
Page 3

2. (Currently Amended) An inhaler aid to be attached to at least one type of inhaler, comprising:

a main unit having a tube used to release a minute powdery curative medicine therethrough, and a ~~horn-shaped~~ junction attachable to a mouthpiece of the inhaler, said junction having a horn-shape in plan view such that a front joint piece and a rear joint piece of the junction project further in a longitudinal direction than left and right lateral ends of the junction, and having an arched shape in side view such that said front joint piece and said rear joint piece correspond to bases of the arched shape and the left and right lateral ends correspond to a top of the arched shape;

an engagement portion which is provided at an upper portion of the main unit, the engagement portion including left and right projections, each having a holding member at an end thereof; and

a reed fitted into a right side of the main unit;

wherein only when the inhaler aid is joined to the mouthpiece of the inhaler for the minute powdery curative medicine and an inhalation has been correctly performed by whirling up the minute powdery curative medicine, a sound is produced from the reed.

3. (Previously Presented) The inhaler aid according to claim 2, wherein said tube is formed of a silicon rubber.